Director of Central Intelligence

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Iran-Iraq: War of the Cities Resumes 10

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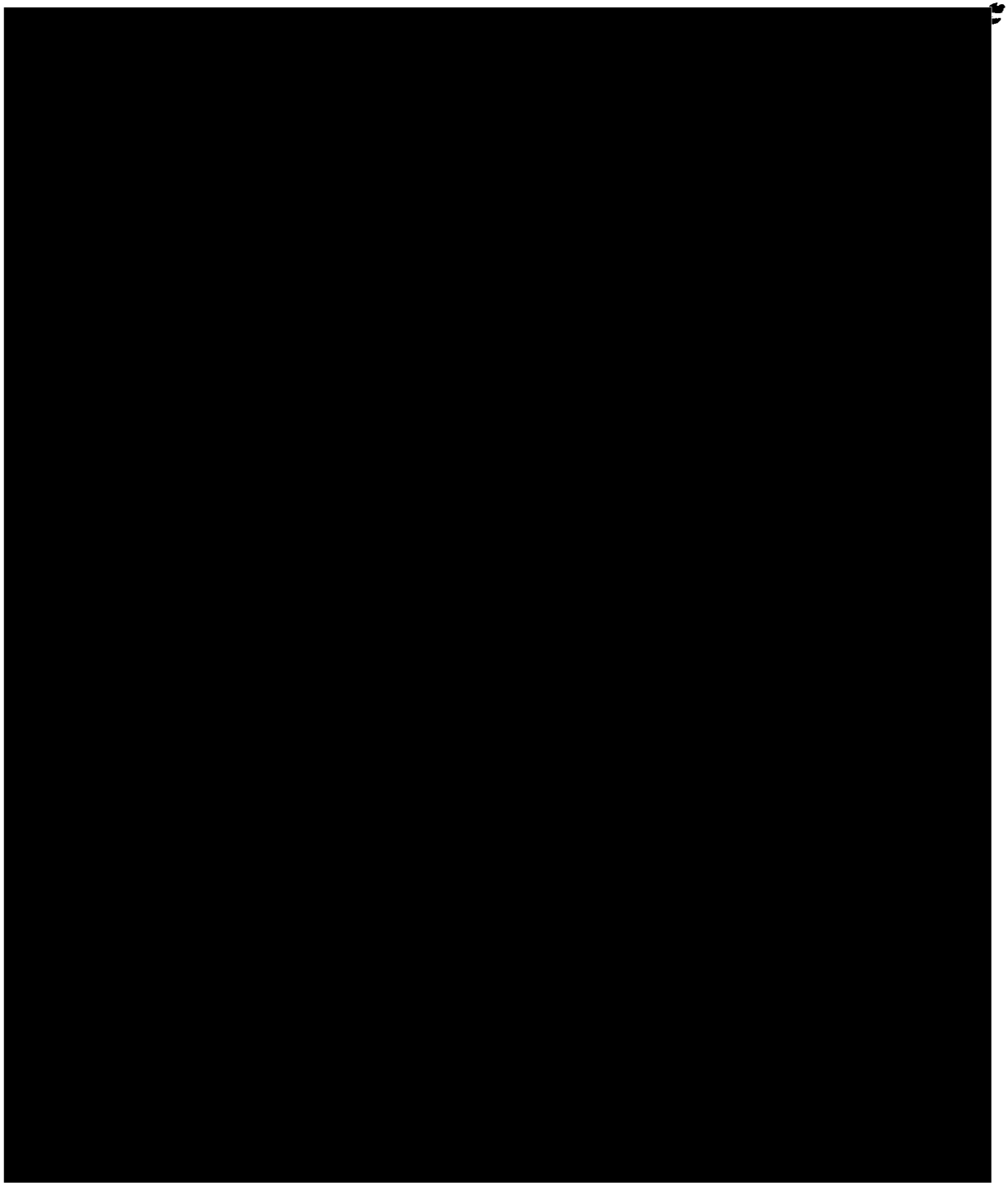

IRAN-IRAQ: "War of the Cities" Resumes

Baghdad has fired at least 12 missiles at Tehran since Sunday in response to Iran's ground operations north and east of As Sulaymaniyah and artillery shelling of several Iraqi border areas over the weekend. Iran in turn has retaliated by hitting Baghdad with at least one missile. Iraq has fired 80 missiles, and Iran has fired 23 since the "war of the cities" began on 29 February. [redacted]

Comment: The Iraqis—buoyed by their perceived victory in the first round of the missile strikes, which ended with a brief cease-fire last Friday—may be attempting to exploit their advantage in missiles to keep the Iranians on the defensive. The Iranians probably believe they must respond to Iraqi attacks with at least minor ground operations in addition to launching missiles at Baghdad. [redacted]

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